



REPORT

ON THE STATE OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH

IN THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF BUSHEY

URBAN DISTRICT OF CHORLEYWOOD

URBAN DISTRICT OF RICKMANSWORTH

RURAL DISTRICT OF WATFORD

IN THE COUNTY OF
HERTFORD



WILLIAM HARVEY, M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1957

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1957.

To the Chairman and Members of:

*the Urban District Council of Bushey,
the Urban District Council of Chorleywood,
the Urban District Council of Rickmansworth,
and
the Rural District Council of Watford.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the state of the Public Health, and the Reports by the Inspectors on their work, in the Districts, during the year 1957.

The Registrar General's estimates of the mid-year populations of the Districts, which form the basis for most of the statistical data in the reports, are analysed in the following table.

CHANGES IN THE POPULATIONS

	Population		Total Increase cols. a + b	Natural Increase a	Migration b
	1957	1956			
BUSHEY	18,320	18,260	60	162	- 102
CHORLEYWOOD	6,110	5,820	290	24	+ 266
RICKMANSWORTH	27,250	26,640	610	173	+ 437
WATFORD RURAL	54,230	52,930	1,300	422	+ 878
	—	—	—	—	—
	105,910	103,650	2,260	781	1,479

Note—

1. Natural Increase, or, excess of births over deaths.
2. The figures in the last column may include adjustments in the estimates of the previous year.

The rate of increase in the population has been slowing down during the last three years, and the figure of 2,260 for 1957, although still high, may be compared with:—5,552 in 1954, 7,250 in 1951, and 5,110 and 6,113 in 1949 and 1948, respectively.

THE BIRTH RATE

The birth-rates in Bushey and Rickmansworth were higher, by the same amount as those for Chorleywood and Watford Rural were lower, than the previous year ; the rates being :—Bushey, 16.6 ; Chorleywood, 13.6 ; Rickmansworth, 14.6 ; and Watford Rural, 15.6.

The rate for England and Wales was 16.1 births per 1,000 of the population—an increase of 0.4.

LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS

corrected for inward and outward transfers

	Live Births		Totals	Still Births	
	M	F		M	F
BUSHEY	153	152	305	4	1
CHORLEYWOOD	43	40	83	1	1
RICKMANSWORTH	205	193	398	2	7
WATFORD RURAL	440	409	849	5	9
	—	—	—	—	—
	841	794	1,635	12	18

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE

The infantile mortality rate, or, deaths under the age of 1 year per 1,000 live births, for England and Wales has now reached the very low level of 23.1. Most of the deaths occurred during the neonatal period of four weeks after birth, and they were largely due to developmental and other causes which will make any improvement in the rate a slow struggle compared with its great reduction from 154 at the beginning of the century.

The rates recorded for the Districts last year compare very favourably with the rate for the whole country, namely :—Bushey 9.8 ; Chorleywood, nil ; Rickmansworth, 15.0 ; and Watford Rural, 17.7.

THE DEATH RATE

The causes of death are given in the separate reports under the headings of the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification, 1948. The death-rates for all ages and all causes, but excluding still births, were :—Bushey, 7.8 ; Chorleywood, 9.6 ; Rickmansworth, 8.2 ; and Watford Rural, 7.9. Owing to the favourable age constitution of the populations, these rates should be multiplied by the Comparability Factors given, which would increase the rates for Rickmansworth and Watford Rural to 9.8 and 9.2—the Factors for Bushey and Chorleywood are small and can be disregarded.

The death rate for England and Wales was 11.5 per 1,000 of the population.

The great difference in the incidence of Cancer of the Lung on males and females is again striking. The respective number of deaths being 30 and 4, out of a total of 854 deaths from all causes.

THE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There has not been a case of Diphtheria in any of the Districts during the last nine years. To maintain this freedom from a disease which was formerly dreaded by parents, it is necessary that the state of immunity of the children, and particularly, of the very young ones, should be kept at a high level. Immunization is voluntary and free, and it is of a simple nature which does not upset a child. About the seventh month is a suitable time for the first of the two injections, which can be given, by the family doctor, or at any child welfare or special clinic. As immunization is voluntary, it is well to remember that the responsibility for protecting a child against Diphtheria rests with the parents.

The Scarlet Fever of today is of mild type ; and the treatment which is now available plays an important part in limiting its spread by shortening the period of infectivity. There were 55 cases of the disease last year, which was 10 fewer than in 1956.

Whooping Cough was prevalent in the southern part of the area during the first half of the year ; there were 501 cases, compared with 105 in 1956. Vaccines giving a good degree of protection, if not always against the disease, against its severity, are available, and the immunizing treatment is provided in conjunction with that for Diphtheria.

The notification of Measles last year rose to 1,905 compared with 383 in 1956, in keeping with the two-year periodicity in the prevalence of this disease, although this is masked to some extent by the different timing in the Districts.

There were 19 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis last year compared with a similar number in 1955, and with 5 cases in the intervening year of 1956. Twelve of the 1955 cases had some degree of paralysis, or muscular weakness, whereas, last year only eight were so affected. There were no deaths. None of the cases had been immunised.

Of the children in this part of the county who are eligible for immunization against Poliomyelitis, that is those between the ages of six months and fifteen years, only sixty per cent have registered, and these have all been immunized. It is hoped that more parents will ask for this protection for their children as its value in preventing,

or diminishing the severity of the disease has been established. As supplies of vaccine are now available, it is hoped that immunization will soon be extended to the 10 to 25 year old group.

THE FOOD SUPPLY

There has been a considerable improvement in the handling of food in shops and restaurants in recent years, and, it is hoped that a very high standard of hygiene will soon be attained in all cases with the help of the fine modern equipment and packing materials now available. The human element will always be important, and personnel must be thoroughly trained in the hygienic handling or serving of food. The Public Health Department will always be pleased to give any advice or training in hygienic principles which may be required.

The ice cream which is sold in the Districts has been shown by repeated tests to be pure and wholesome, and a credit to the care which is given to its manufacture at all stages.

Rickmansworth became an Authority under the Food and Drugs Act on the 1st April, 1957, so that the Report on the administration of the Act in that District does not cover the first quarter of the year.

Considerable attention has been given to unfit housing, either by way of repair, or when this was not a reasonable procedure owing to the bad state of the property, by demolition. The clearance of bad property is balanced against the completion of new houses, so that the tenants are rehoused with little disturbance, and leaving the old sites to be redeveloped when desirable.

Useful work has been done in connection with the control of rodents and other pests, with considerable public health and economic advantage.

I have pleasure in recording that the work of the Public Health Departments have been carried out with efficiency and consideration by the Inspectors and their Staffs.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM HARVEY.

Eighty-fourth Annual Report.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

of the Councils of the Urban Districts of Bushey, Chorleywood, Rickmansworth, and, the Rural District of Watford.

Medical Officer of Health

WILLIAM HARVEY, M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

BUSHEY

Senior Public Health Inspector—A. C. F. GISBORNE, Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board. Cert. Inspection of Meats and other Foods. Civil Defence Instructors' Cert. Falfield, 1952.

Public Health Inspector—D. JONES. Cert. S.I.J.B.

Trainee Assistant—A. G. BUTTERFIELD.

CHORLEYWOOD

Senior Public Health Inspector (and Surveyor)—W. E. HANDS. Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board. Cert. Inspection of Meat and other Foods.

Public Health Inspector (and Assistant Surveyor)—F. E. JACKSON. Cert. S.I.J.B., Cert. Inspection of Meat and other Foods.

RICKMANSWORTH

Senior Public Health Inspector—C. R. ALEXANDER. Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board. Cert. Inspection of Meat and other Foods. Civil Defence Instructors Cert. Falfield 1951.

Public Health Inspectors—W. HUMBER. Cert. S.I.J.B. Cert. Inspection of Meat and other Foods. R. STOCKLEY. Cert. S.J.I.B. Cert. Inspection of Meat and other Foods.

WATFORD RURAL

Chief Public Health Inspector—S. N. GRIGG. Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board. Cert. Inspector of Meat and other Foods. A.R.P.S. Falfield, 1941

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector—F. REEVE. Cert. S.I.J.B.

Public Health Inspector—F. VALENTINE. Cert. S.I.J.B. Cert. Inspection of Meat and other foods.

BUSHEY

URBAN DISTRICT

General.

Area of District (land and inland water), 3,866 acres.

Highest Point—London Road at Southern boundary, 506.7ft.

Lowest Point—Near River Colne, 179.2ft.

Dwellings and Rateable Value.

31st March, 1958.

<i>Number of Separate Dwellings</i>	<i>Rateable Value</i>	<i>Product (est.) of Penny Rate</i>
5,836	£290,907	£1,157

Population.

(Registrar General's estimates at mid-year) :

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1951 census	1945	1939
18,320	18,260	17,940	17,710	16,550	14,833	12,880	12,930

Birth-Rate

Live births per 1,000 of population. Comparability Factor, 0.94

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1951	1945	1939
16.6	14.8	13.7	12.5	13.3	15.1	14.4	13.0

Classification of Births:

					Live Births		Still Births	
					M	F	M	F
Total	...	...	...	...	153	152	4	1
<i>Legitimate</i>	...	...	...	...	150	146	3	1
<i>Illegitimate</i>	...	...	...	...	3	6	1	—

Infantile Mortality Rate.

(Number of deaths under age of 1 year per 1,000 live births) :

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1951	1947	1945	1939
9.8	3.7	20.3	36	27.1	37	27	43	48

Classification of Infant Deaths:

	Total	<i>Legitimate</i>	<i>Illegitimate</i>	Under Age of 4 weeks		Under Age of 1 year	
				M	F	M	F
	2	1	2	1
				2	—	2	—
				—	1	—	1

Still Birth-Rate.

Still births per 1,000 total (live and still) births :

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1951	1939
16.1	7.3	31.5	22.0	0	16.2	35.7

Tuberculosis Notifications.

The cases of Tuberculosis which were notified for the first time during the year are given in the following table according to localization of disease, sex, and age group.

	Respiratory		Meninges, Cent. Nervous System		Other Forms	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 years	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24 „	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—44 „	—	1	—	—	—	1
45—64 „	4	3	—	—	—	—
65 and over	2	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages)	6	5	—	—	—	1

THE CAUSES OF DEATH

DEATH-RATE

(Deaths per 1,000 of population)

1957

				Males	Females	1957	7.8
	All Causes	76	67	1957	7.8
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—	1956	8.7
2	Tuberculosis, other	—	1	1955	8.0
3	Syphilitic disease	—	—	1954	8.7
4	Diphtheria	—	—	1953	8.9
5	Whooping cough	—	—	1952	9.3
6	Meningococcal infections	—	—	1951	9.9
7	Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	1950	9.9
8	Measles	—	—	1949	10.4
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	1948	8.1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	5	3	1947	...	...	9.8
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	2	1946	...	...	9.1	
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	4	1945	...	...	10.6	
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—	1944	...	...	10.2	
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	7	4	1943	...	...	11.5
15	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	2	1942	...	...	9.8	
16	Diabetes	...	—	1941	...	...	10.6	
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	10	1940	...	...	9.7	
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	21	1939	...	...	7.9	
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	—	1938	...	...	9.1	
20	Other heart disease	...	10	1937	...	...	9.2	
21	Other circulatory disease	...	3	1936	...	...	8.2	
22	Influenza	...	1	2					
23	Pneumonia	...	3	8					England and Wales
24	Bronchitis	...	4	2	1957	...	...	11.5
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	1	—	1956	...	...	11.7
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	2	—	1955	...	...	11.7
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	—	—	1954	...	...	11.3
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	—	—	1953	...	...	11.4
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	—	—	1952	...	...	11.3
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	—	—	1951	...	...	12.5
31	Congenital malformations	...	1	—	1950	...	...	11.6
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	7	5	1949	...	...	11.7
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	1	—	1948	...	...	10.8
34	All other accidents	...	1	—	1947	...	...	12.0
35	Suicide	...	—	—	1946	...	...	11.5
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	—	—	1945	...	...	11.4

Comparability Factor for Deaths, 1.09

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1957

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute poliomyelitis				Measles (Exc. Rubella)		Diphtheria	
					Paralytic		Non-paralytic		M	F	M	F
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...			5	2					1	1		
1— ...	1		2	5					17	19		
3— ...			7	7					27	24		
5— ...	3	4	32	31					40	58		
10— ...			1				1		2	5		
15— ...							1		2			
25 and over			1	1						1		
TOTALS	3	5	48	46	—	—	2	—	89	108	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Acute encephalitis				Enteric or Typhoid Fever	
							Infective		Post-infectious			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...	1											
5— ...	2											
15— ...	2	1										
45— ...	1	3										
65 and over		3										
TOTALS	6	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Paratyphoid Fevers		Erysipelas		Meningococcal infection		Food Poisoning		Other Notifiable Diseases			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...									Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	63	
5— ...									Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	7	1	
15— ...									Cholera ...	...	—	—
45— ...			1				1		Malaria ...	...	—	—
85 and over									Plague ...	...	—	—
TOTALS	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	Relapsing Fever	—	—	—
									Typhus Fever...	—	—	—

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1957

MONTH OF OCCURRENCE

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
--	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Scarlet Fever	1	2	.	1	.	1	1	.	1	.	1	.
Whooping Cough	11	24	43	3	4	4	2	.	.	.	3	.
paralytic												
Ac. poliomyelitis ;												
non-paralytic	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.
Measles	1	27	24	44	68	12	6	11	.	.	4	.
Diphtheria												
Ac. pneumonia	.	1	4	.	.	1	.	.	1	3	1	2
Dysentery												
Smallpox												
infective												
Ac. encephalitis ;												
post-infectious												
Typhoid Fever												
Paratyphoid fevers												
Erysipelas	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
Meningococcal infn.												
Food poisoning												
Puerperal pyrexia	4	3	9	3	5	5	5	7	5	6	8	3
Ophthalmia neonat.	.	2	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	2	2	.
†												

†Cholera Malaria Plague Relapsing F. Typhus F.

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

<i>a,</i> Total number of houses inspected (Public Health or Housing Acts)	132
<i>b,</i> Number of inspections made for the purpose	420

2. Action Taken.

Number of :—

<i>a,</i> Clearance Areas declared	3
<i>b,</i> Unfit houses included in <i>a</i> , above	28
<i>c,</i> Individual houses demolished	2
<i>d,</i> Individual houses closed	1
<i>e,</i> Parts of buildings closed	Nil
<i>f,</i> Dwellings rendered fit after :— <i>i,</i> Informal action	28
<i>ii,</i> Formal action	3

3. Overcrowding.

Number of :—

<i>a,</i> Cases brought forward from previous year	4
<i>b,</i> Premises found to be overcrowded during the year	—
<i>c,</i> Cases of overcrowding abated	1

4. Certificates of Disrepair.

Number of :—

<i>a,</i> Applications for Certificates—Form I	20
<i>b,</i> Undertakings by landlord—Form K	10
<i>c,</i> Certificates issued—Form L	7

5. Improvement Grants.

Number of :—

<i>a,</i> Applications made	6
<i>b,</i> „ refused	—
<i>c,</i> Grants made	5

6. Number of Houses and Flats Erected during the Year.

<i>a,</i> By the Local Authority	25
<i>b,</i> By other Authorities and Organizations	33
<i>c,</i> By private persons	105

SUMMARY OF HOUSING DEFECTS.

Housing defects remedied during the year are recorded below in classified form. Work done in connection with the extermination of rats, mice, etc. is not recorded here, but under that part of the report dealing with the Prevention of Damage by Pests.

1. Site.

a, Drainage of ground unsatisfactory : 2. *b,* Outbuildings, inadequate or in bad repair : 3. *c,* Approach to back of house unsatisfactory : 3. *d,* Fencing defective : 0. *e,* Storage of refuse unsatisfactory : 2. *f,* Animals improperly kept : 1.

2. Prevention of Dampness.

a, Roof, chimney ; defective : 8. *b,* Gutters, downpipes ; defective : 9. *c,* Walls, doors, windows ; defective : 6. *d,* Damp-proof course defective : 2. *e,* Sub-floor ventilation defective : 2. *f,* Solid floor defective : 2. *g,* Soil against walls above damp-proof course : 1. (See also *a*).

3. Lighting, Ventilaton.

a, Obstruction to light and air : 0. *b*, Window area or opening below standard : 0. *c*, Ventilation otherwise defective : 1. *d*, Artificial lighting defective : 1. (See also 8, *f*).

4. Stability and External Repair not included under Sections 2 and 3, above : 3.

5. Water Supply.

a, Water supply not satisfactory : 4. *b*, Main supply disconnected : 0.

6. Food : Storage, Preparation and Cooking.

a, Storage of food unsatisfactory : 0. *b*, Cooking arrangements unsatisfactory : 1. *c*, Sink unsatisfactory : 0.

7. Washing arrangements : Disposal of Waste Water.

a, Bath defective : 0. *b*, No bath : 0. *c*, Arrangements for water heating unsatisfactory : 1. *d*, Disposal of waste water unsatisfactory : 0.

8. Closet accommodation : Soil Drainage.

a, Pail closet defective : 0. *b*, Water closet defective : 4. *c*, Drainage defective : 3. *d*, Disposal of sewage unsatisfactory : 0. *e*, Approach to outside closet not protected : 0. *f*, Lighting, ventilation ; inadequate : 0.

9. Space-Heating.

a, Firegrate, flue ; defective : 3".

10. Repair, Decoration, Cleanliness : internal.

a, Internal structures defective : 11. *b*, Decoration in bad state : 0. *c*, Lack of cleanliness : 0. *d*, Infestation with bugs, etc. : 1.

Clearance Areas.

Considerable progress was made during the year regarding clearance areas. Demolition was completed in the case of the Sparrows Herne Clearance Area, while the following areas were declared :—

Clearance Area No. 2. 43-53 Herkomer Road—6 dwellings.

Clearance Area No. 3. 1-13 Crook Log, London Road—13 Dwellings

Clearance Area No. 4. 1-8 Salem Cottages and Salem Bungalow—9 dwellings.

The Clearance Order was made and confirmed in respect of the 13 dwellings at Crook Log, the Council being directed to make well-maintained payments in respect of Nos. 8 and 13.

Inspections of other insanitary houses were made with a view to them being included in further clearance areas to be dealt with in 1958.

Individual Unfit Houses.

Nos. 1 and 2 Highwood Cottages, Bushey Mill Lane, were demolished during the year as the result of Demolition Orders made in 1956. Owing to the dangerous condition of No. 43 Herkomer Road, a house included in Clearance Area No. 2, it was necessary to make a Closing Order and rehouse the occupants.

Resulting from inspections, three more premises were found to be in such a state that they cannot be rendered fit at reasonable cost, and were added to the list of premises to be dealt with when the present programme concerning insanitary premises has been completed about 1960.

Certificates of Disrepair.

As a result of the Rent Act coming into operation in July, 1957, 20 applications have been made for Certificates of Disrepair, and most of the certificates issued were in respect of properties that are to be included in future clearance areas. During routine visits to houses in the district it has been evident that a number of premises are being repaired and redecorated, but whether the type of repair work that is being carried out will be sufficient to increase the life of the properties remains to be seen.

Improvement Grants.

In addition to making 5 grants in connection with the modernisation of dwellings, the Council also financially assisted the Reveley Trust under Section 93 of the Housing Act, 1936, and Section 4 of the Housing Act, 1949, in respect of the 10 almshouses owned by the Trust.

Moveable Dwellings.

Once again it is necessary to report that the amount of time spent on endeavouring to control caravan sites and to prevent the establishment of further unsatisfactory sites is very considerable. Although the Council have provided its own site, further legislation appears necessary to effectively prevent the establishment of unsatisfactory sites.

At the end of the year the position regarding residential caravans in the district was as follows :—

Number of licensed sites—3. (50 caravans)

Individual licences—11. (7 of these were renewed until 1960).

It is estimated that at the end of the year, the total number of residential caravans on unlicensed sites, most of which are unsatisfactory, was 77.

An appeal against the Council's refusal to issue a licence in respect of caravans at Bushey Hall was dismissed. The Council, however, finally came to an agreement with the owner of this site for the caravans to be removed from the site within 18 months. In order to assist, the Council decided to allocate 8 standings on their site at Brookside for caravans from Bushey Hall.

A site in Sandy Lane was also the subject of proceedings for non-compliance with an Abatement Notice under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The Magistrates made the necessary nuisance orders, and it is hoped, that in due course, caravans on this site will be moved. During 1957 there was a large increase in the number of vans occupied by gypsies, dealers and similar types of persons. A number of these people have lorries and collect all manner of waste materials, while materials that cannot be sold are either burnt or discarded on the land adjoining these encampments. Abatement notices under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were served in appropriate cases. One local resident took action under the Herts County Council Bye-laws as a van was within 300 yards of the dwelling occupied by him, but although the Court imposed a fine, the occupier of the van did not move until the Council took appropriate action by serving an Abatement Notice. The time spent in endeavouring to move these people is out of all proportion to the results obtained, as often they only move from one part of the district to another.

During the year there were 8 vacancies on the Council's Caravan Site at Eastbury Road, and at the end of the year there were 161 persons on the Waiting List.

Inspection of Caravan sites—Council site 9. Bushey Hall site 37.
Other residential sites 128. Gypsy sites 96.

THE FOOD SUPPLY

Food Condemned.

The following quantities of food were condemned during the year:—

Meat, carcase 154lbs., Meat, canned 24lbs., Fish 65lbs., Milk, canned 2lbs., Vegetables, canned 86lbs., Fruit, canned 11lbs., Cereals 19lbs., Offal 58lbs.

All this unsound food was disposed of by burying at the Council's refuse tip.

Three complaints were received during the year from local residents, concerning food which they had purchased and which they complained was contaminated. Samples of the food concerned were submitted for analysis, but in only one case was it found necessary to report the facts to the Council, who issued a strong warning to the manufacturers of a mineral water, regarding a bottle which was contaminated with paraffin.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or in part.

No regular slaughtering takes place within the district. No notice of any casual slaughtering has been received during the past year.

Milk Supply.

There are three dairies in the District and twelve distributors of milk.

Twenty-four Special Designation licences were granted during the year as follows:—

	Dealers	Supplementary *
Sterilised	...	4
Pasteurised	...	3
Tuberculin Tested	...	3

Twelve samples of designated milk were taken and submitted for examination. All passed the necessary tests.

* To Dealers whose premises are not in the District.

Ice Cream.

There are twenty-nine premises registered for the sale of ice cream, and thirty-six inspections were made to these premises. No ice cream is manufactured in the District, and it is pleasing to report that all thirty-one samples taken from the various retailers, all of whom sell pre-packed ice cream, were placed in Grade 1.

It is interesting to record that during the last 2 years all samples taken have been placed in Grade 1.

FOOD PREMISES

Table showing the types and numbers of food premises in the District, with the inspections made during the year.

Type of Business	Number in District	Number of Inspections made
REGISTERED PREMISES		
Cooked meats and preserved food ...	9	15
Ice Cream retailers	29	36
Dairies	3	6
OTHER FOOD PREMISES		
Bakehouses	3	8
Butchers	9	23
Cafes and Restaurants	11	13
Canteens, factory	13	10
,, school	17	7
Fish and Chip Shops	2	3
Fishmongers	3	7
Greengrocers	13	15
Grocers, retail	26	51
,, wholesale	2	3
Hospitals and Nursing Homes ...	6	0
Hotels and Guest Houses	2	0
Public Houses	20	6
Licensed Clubs	4	2
Mobile Food Premises	4	8
Miscellaneous Premises (sweets, etc.)	7	14
Sweet Manufacturer	1	0

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

226 routine inspections were made of food premises in the district. Once again it is possible to report that further improvements were carried out in the various food premises, and plans were approved by the Council for the construction of a new road transport cafe to replace the existing premises, which do not comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

WATER SUPPLY

The public water supply is chlorinated and adequate for the district. Three samples were taken for bacteriological examination, and these were reported as fit for drinking and domestic purposes. There has been no change regarding the one house in the district which draws its water from a private borehole, nor has there been any change in the number of premises where the only water supply is from standpipes in the gardens. Some of these houses have been included in clearance areas, and will be demolished by the end of 1959.

Swimming Pool.

Twenty-two inspections were made of the Council's Swimming Pool and 17 water samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. Two of these samples were not up to the usual standard, and the bacteriologist reported that the "water should be checked at regular intervals owing to the high plate count." No coliform bacilli were isolated.

The Council again considered the installing of a filtration and chlorination plant, and in due course the Minister of Housing and Local Government gave approval in principle to such an installation, which it is hoped will be in operation for the 1959 season.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

DISINFECTION : Number of houses disinfected	... ...	5
DISINFESTATION : Number of houses treated (Exc. rats and mice)	... ... ... ...	20

Only one house was found to be infested with bed bugs, the remaining cases being wasps nests and treatment for woodworm.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The work done during the year under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, is recorded in the following section.

	Local Authority Depots, etc.	Dwelling Houses	Agri-cultural	All other, incl. Business & Industry	Total
1. Total No. of properties in L.A.s' district	20	5,015	24	587	5,646
2. No. of properties inspected by L.A. as a result of a, notification, b, otherwise.	a, 3 b, 7	58 523	1 6	23 42	85 578
3. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by Rats a, Major b, Minor, Infest.	a, — b, 8	— 67	— 1	— 16	— 92
4. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by Mice a, Major b, Minor, Infest.	a, — b, —	— 5	— —	— 6	— 11
5. No. of infested properties (under 3 & 4) treated by the L.A. ...	18	72	1	22	113
6. No. of notices served under Section 4 for: a, Treatment b, Structural Works	a, — b, —	— —	— —	— —	— —

7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by L.A. following issue of notice under S. 4 ; 0.
8. Legal Proceedings, 0.
9. Number of "block control" schemes carried out, 1.

Rodent Control in Sewers.

As far as is known, the Council's sewers are free from rats, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food have agreed with the Council that the next test bait should be carried out in January, 1959.

SOIL DRAINAGE

(Including—Cesspools, Septic Tanks, Filterbeds, etc.)

There has been no change in the number of cesspools which are regularly emptied by the Council. During the year two houses which had pail closets were demolished, leaving 7 such closets which are regularly emptied by the Council. It is hoped that a further number of houses with pail closets will be dealt with under the Housing Acts in the near future. Cesspool emptying is under the control of the Council's Surveyor, and he has kindly submitted the following information for the year 1957 :—

Number of cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	...	113
Number of emptyings	...	...	...	...	...	1,881
Number of loads removed	...	...	...	...	...	3,168
Number of gallons removed	...	...	...	...	...	2,793,750

In addition to the above cesspools, there are 8 others at non-residential premises where private arrangements are made for the emptying.

The following table shows the number of inspections and tests made during the year :—

1. NEW AND ALTERED DRAINAGE SYSTEMS.

Number of inspections and tests made	392
--------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

2. COUNCIL HOUSES.

(a) Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	...	1,181
(b) Number of obstructions cleared	...	...	...	...	...	10
(c) Number of houses affected under (b) above	...	...	...	...	...	55

3. PRIVATE HOUSES.

(a) Number of obstructions cleared by Department	...	...	...	...	...	23
(b) Number of houses affected under (a) above	...	...	...	...	...	73

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection.

The collection of refuse in the district is carried out by contract. Two low-loading vehicles with metal covers are in regular use, while in addition a third vehicle is used two days a week, and at other times when required.

Refuse Disposal.

The refuse is dealt with by controlled tipping at the Council's Tip. One minor infestation of rats was dealt with during the year. In July a major infestation of crickets developed in one part of the tip, and this was finally brought under control by using gammexane. During this time the occupiers of the houses which back on to this part of the Tip were given pybuthrin powder, which they say was a great help to them in dealing with the crickets that migrated from the Tip into the houses.

Various Inspections, with action where necessary :—

Ponds, Ditches and Watercourses	...	...	...	...	...	5
Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	33
Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	...	26

THE KEEPING OF ANIMALS

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Number of premises licensed under the Act	...	...	...	2
Number of Inspections made under the Act	...	...	...	6
Other Inspections (a) Farms—piggeries	...	...	...	4
poultry	...	...	...	13
(b) General	...	...	...	5

There were no complaints during the year concerning nuisances from farms or piggeries.

AIR POLLUTION

Total number of observations and inspections	34
--	-----	-----	-----	----

The only serious nuisance in this district caused from smoke and grit is in the area north east of the Watford Gas Works. From time to time residents in this area have complained bitterly concerning smoke, fumes and grit from these Works, and representations have been made to the Eastern Gas Board and to the Borough of Watford, in whose area the Works are situated.

A joint meeting of representatives from the Bushey Urban District Council and the Watford Borough was held, particularly regarding the use of apparatus for detecting air pollution. The matter was still, however, under consideration at the end of the year. It appears that the particular nuisance complained of by the residents occurs from time to time, mainly from a new type of complete gassification plant that has been installed, and the Eastern Gas Board have assured the Council that they will continue to pursue their experiments with a view to the elimination of smoke and fumes from this plant.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Number of premises registered under the Act	...	...	...	1
Number of inspections made	...	...	...	1
Action required	...	...	...	Nil

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	60	36	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	7	12	—	—
TOTAL ...	69	50	—	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	—	—	—	—	—

Sections 110, 111—Outworkers, 5; Notices, etc., 0.

CHORLEYWOOD

URBAN DISTRICT

General.

Area of District (land and inland water), 2,055 acres.

Highest Point—Near water tower at the Swillet, 410.6ft.

Lowest Point—Junction of Meadow Way and Belfry Lane, 160.3ft.

Dwelling and Rateable Value.

31st March, 1958

<i>Number of Separate Dwellings</i>	<i>Rateable Value</i>	<i>Product (est.) of Penny Rate</i>
2,021	£113,181	£463

Population.

(Registrar General's estimates at mid-year)

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1951 <small>census</small>	1945	1939
6,110	5,820	5,430	4,820	4,648	4,431	3,967	3,775

Birth-Rate

Live births per 1,000 of population: (Comparability Factor, 0.99)

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1951	1945	1939
13.6	15.8	15.1	13.3	11.8	12.5	13.1	9.0

Classification of Births:

					Live Births		Still Births
					M.	F.	M.
Total	...	...	...	...	43	40	1
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	42	39	1
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	1	—

Infantile Mortality Rate.

(Number of deaths under age of 1 year per 1,000 live births) :

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1951	1945	1939
0	32.6	24.4	62.5	36.4	0	19	29

Classification of Deaths :

	Total	Under Age of 4 weeks		Under Age of 1 year	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
Total	—	—	—	—
Legitimate	—	—	—	—
Illegitimate	—	—	—	—

Still Birth-Rate.

Still births per 1,000 total (live and still) births :

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1939
23.5	10.7	12.2	15.4	17.8	60.0	55.5

Tuberculosis Notifications.

The cases of Tuberculosis which were notified for the first time during the year are given in the following table according to localization of disease, sex, and age group.

	Respiratory		Meninges, Cent. Nervous System		Other Forms	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 years	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24 ,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—44 ,,	—	2	—	—	—	—
45—64 ,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages)	—	2	—	—	—	—

THE CAUSES OF DEATH

DEATH-RATE

1957

(Deaths per 1,000 of population)

					Males	Females	1957	...	...	9.6
All Causes	...	...	...	...	31	28	1956	...	...	9.9
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	1	—	1955	...	...	9.2
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	—	—	1954	...	...	7.7
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	—	1953	...	...	10.1
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	1952	...	...	11.5
5	Whooping cough	...	...	...	—	—	1951	...	...	8.5
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—	1950	...	...	10.0
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	1949	...	...	11.3
8	Measles	...	...	...	—	—	1948	...	...	9.7
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	—	1947	...	...	14.0
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	—	1	1946	...	...	12.6
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	3	1	1945	...	...	9.3
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	—	1944	...	...	11.2
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	—	1943	...	...	13.0
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	2	4	1942	...	...	10.7
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	—	—	1941	...	...	10.3
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	—	1940	...	...	9.7
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	4	6	1939	...	...	9.6
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	8	4	1938	...	...	9.9
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	—	2	1937	...	...	10.5
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	3	7	1936	...	...	9.7
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	—	—	1935	...	...	7.7
22	Influenza	...	...	...	—	1				
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	1	2				
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	1	—				
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	1	—	England and Wales			
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	—	—	1957	...	...	11.5
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	—	—	1956	...	...	11.7
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	—	—	1955	...	...	11.7
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	1	—	1954	...	...	11.3
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—	1953	...	...	11.4
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	—	—	1952	...	...	11.3
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	5	—	1951	...	...	12.5
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	—	—	1950	...	...	11.6
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	—	—	1949	...	...	11.7
35	Suicide	...	...	...	—	—	1948	...	...	10.8
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—	1947	...	...	12.0
							1946	...	...	11.5
							1945	...	...	11.4

Comparability Factor for Deaths, 0.99

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1957

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute poliomyelitis				Measles (Exc. Rubella)		Diphtheria	
	M	F	M	F	Paralytic	Non-paralytic	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...			1	1					1	1		
1— ...			2	3					6	5		
3— ...			6	3					8	6		
5— ...			4	11					15	10		
10— ...			4	1					4	5		
15— ...										2		
25 and over			1									
TOTAL ...	—	—	18	19	—	—	—	—	34	29	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Meningococcal Infection		Acute encephalitis			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	Infective	Post-infectious	M	F
0— ...												
5— ...												
15— ...												
45— ...												
65 and over												
TOTAL ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fevers		Erysipelas		Food Poisoning		Other Notifiable Diseases		M	F			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	Puerperal Pyrexia ...	Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	Cholera ...	Malaria ...	Plague ...	Relapsing Fever	Typhus Fever...
0—
5— ...										—	—	—	—	—	—
15— ...											—	—	—	—	—
45— ...											—	—	—	—	—
65 and over											—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—							

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1957

MONTH OF OCCURRENCE

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Scarlet Fever

Whooping Cough

2 . 11 13 . 7 . 2 . . . 2

paralytic

Ac. poliomyelitis ;
non-paralytic

Measles

. 7 22 1 4 7 . 8 . . 7 7

Diphtheria

Ac. pneumonia

Dysentery

Smallpox

infective

Ac. encephalitis ;
post-infectious

Typhoid Fever

Paratyphoid fevers

Erysipelas

Meningococcal infn.

Food poisoning

Puerperal pyrexia

Ophthalmia neonat.

†

† Cholera Malaria Plague Relapsing F. Typhus F.

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

<i>a,</i> Total number of houses inspected (Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	52
<i>b,</i> Number of inspections made for the purpose	111

2. Action Taken.

Number of :—

<i>a,</i> Clearance Areas declared	0
<i>b,</i> Unfit houses included in <i>a</i> , above	0
<i>c,</i> Individual houses demolished	0
<i>d,</i> Individual houses closed	0
<i>e,</i> Parts of buildings closed	0
<i>f,</i> Dwellings rendered fit after :—	
<i>i,</i> Informal action	43
<i>ii,</i> Formal action	0

3. Overcrowding.

Number of :—

<i>a,</i> Cases brought forward from previous year	0
<i>b,</i> Premises found to be overcrowded during the year	0
<i>c,</i> Cases of overcrowding abated	0

4. Certificates of Disrepair.

Number of :—

<i>a,</i> Certificates of Disrepair issued	3
<i>b,</i> Certificates of Disrepair cancelled	—

5. Improvement Grants.

Number of :—

<i>a,</i> Applications made	0
<i>b,</i> Grants made	0

6. Number of Houses and Flats Erected During the Year.

<i>a,</i> By the Local Authority	0
<i>b,</i> By other Authorities and Organizations	0
<i>c,</i> By private persons	64

SUMMARY OF HOUSING DEFECTS.

Housing defects remedied during the year are recorded below in classified form. Work done in connection with the extermination of rats, mice, etc. is not recorded here, but under that part of the report dealing with the Prevention of Damage by Pests.

1. Site.

a, Drainage of ground unsatisfactory : 1. *b,* Outbuildings, inadequate or in bad repair : 10. *c.* Approach to back of house unsatisfactory : 2. *d,* Fencing defective : 0. *e,* Storage of refuse unsatisfactory : 19. *f,* Animals improperly kept : 0.

2. Prevention of Dampness.

a, Roof, chimney ; defective : 11. *b,* Gutters, downpipes ; defective : 7. *c,* Walls, doors, windows ; defective : 23. *d,* Damp-proof course ; defective : 0. *e,* Sub-floor ventilation ; defective : 2. *f,* Solid floor ; defective : 1. *g,* Soil against walls above damp-proof course (see also 1.a) : 5.

3. Lighting, Ventilation.

a, Obstruction to light and air : 0. *b*, Window area or opening below standard : 0. *c*, Ventilation otherwise defective : 0. *d*, Artificial lighting defective : 0 (see also 8. f).

4. Stability and External Repair not included under Sections 2 and 3 above : 0.

5. Water Supply.

a, Water supply not satisfactory : 1. *b*, Main supply disconnected : 1.

6. Food : Storage, Preparation and Cooking.

a, Storage of food unsatisfactory : 0. *b*, Cooking arrangements unsatisfactory : 0. *c*, Sink unsatisfactory : 3.

7. Washing arrangements : Disposal of Waste Water.

a, Bath defective : 0. *b*, No bath : 0. *c*, Arrangements for water heating unsatisfactory : 9. *d*, Disposal of waste water unsatisfactory : 5.

8. Closet accommodation : Soil Drainage.

a, Pail closet defective : 0. *b*, Water closet defective : 19. *c*, Drainage defective : 28. *d*, Disposal of sewage unsatisfactory : 0. *e*, Approach to outside closet not protected : 0. *f*, Lighting, ventilation ; inadequate : 0.

9. Space Heating.

a, Firegrate, flue ; defective : 16.

10. Repair, Decoration, Cleanliness : internal.

a, Internal structure defective : 12. *b*, Decoration in bad state : 22. *c*, Lack of cleanliness : 6. *d*, Infestation with bugs, etc. : 1.

THE FOOD SUPPLY

Under the general heading of public health work this is probably one of the most important duties of the Council, and for this purpose routine visits are made to food establishments throughout the District. The public are now taking a growing interest in food hygiene and showing keener discrimination. This is bound to have a good effect on the general standard.

Slaughtering and Meat Inspection.

No animals were slaughtered in the District during the year under review.

Milk Supply.

The following special Designation Licences were issued during the year :—

	Dealers	Supplementary *
Tuberculin Tested	... 4	2
Pasteurised	... 4	2
Sterilized	... 2	2

Sixteen inspections were made during the year but it was not found necessary to serve any notices. No complaints of dirty milk bottles were received. In the course of the year nine samples of designated milks were submitted to the laboratory for examination and all were found to be satisfactory.

* To Dealers whose premises are outside the District.

Ice Cream.

There are no premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream.

The seven premises registered for the sale of ice cream sell wrapped ice cream only.

It was not found necessary to serve any notices.

Water Supply.

The water supply of the District is supplied by the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company, and no complaints have been received regarding its quality.

Mobile Food Vans.

Three mobile food vans continue to trade in the District, and all have the name and address of the owner conspicuously displayed on the vehicle.

Food Condemned.

It has not been found necessary to condemn any food during the year.

FOOD PREMISES

The following table sets out the number and type of food premises in the district, together with the number of inspections made:

Type of Businesses	Number in District			Number of Inspections made
REGISTERED PREMISES				
Ice Cream retailers	7	9
Dairies	4	16
OTHER FOOD PREMISES				
Bakehouses	1	4
Butchers	4	9
Canteens, factory	1	6
,, school	2	5
Fishmongers	1	4
Greengrocers	3	5
Grocers, Retail	8	17
Hotels and Guest Houses	1	4
Public Houses	8	19
Licensed Clubs	4	4
Mobile Food Premises	3	7
Miscellaneous Premises (sweets, etc.)		6		11

DISINFECTION (1), DISINFESTATION (2)

Number of cases (1) 4. (2) 1. Total 5.

Sixty-one complaints were received regarding wasps and sixty-three nests were destroyed or removed.

Numerous complaints were received regarding an Earwig infestation on a new housing estate, and a general disinfection of the area was carried out after field trials.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

	Local Authority Depots, etc.	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other, incl. Business & Industry	Total
1. Total No. of properties in L.A.s' district	3	1,985	11	112	2,111
2. No. of properties inspected by L.A. as a result a, of notification, b, otherwise.	a, — b, 3	34 29	— 1	5 40	39 73
3. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by Rats a, Major b, Minor, infest.	a, — b, —	— 27	— —	— 3	— 30
4. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by Mice a, Major b, Minor, infest.	a, — b, —	— 5	— —	— 2	— 7
5. No. of infested properties (under 3 & 4) treated by the L.A. ...	—	32	—	5	37
6. No. of notices served under Section 4 for: a, Treatment b, Structural Works	a, — b, —	— —	— —	— —	— —

Number of cases in which default action was taken by L.A. following issue of notice under S. 4 ; 0.

8. Legal Proceedings, 0.
9. Number of "block control" schemes carried out, 0.

Sewer Control.

An exemption from testing has been granted until January, 1958, by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

By direct labour. Vehicles employed—two motor vehicles, side-loading 12 cu. yard capacity with sliding metal covers. Every effort has been made to maintain a 7-day collection service.

An order has been placed for a new dual-tip 18 cu. yard refuse collection vehicle to replace one of the existing 12 cu. yard side-loading vehicles. It is anticipated that the new vehicle will come into operation early in 1958.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	8	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	15	16	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	23	24	—	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	3	3	—	—	—

Outworkers S.110 (i) (c) :—Number, 2. Notices, etc., Nil.

RICKMANSWORTH

URBAN DISTRICT

General.

Area (land and inland water), 7,639 acres.

Dwellings and Rateable Value.

31st March, 1958

<i>Number of Separate Dwellings</i>	<i>Rateable Value</i>	<i>Product (est.) of Penny Rate</i>
8,320	£528,060	£2,180

Population.

(Registrar General's estimates at mid-year) :

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1951 <small>census</small>	1945	1939
27,250	26,640	26,180	25,820	25,360	24,508	21,870	19,930

Birth-Rate

(Live births per 1,000 of population) : (Comparability Factor 1.02)

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1951	1945	1939
14.6	13.3	13.6	12.5	13.2	13.6	15.3	18.8

Classification of Births:

					Live Births.		Still Births.
					M.	F.	M.
Total	...	...	...	...	205	193	2
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	201	187	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	4	6	—
							1

Infantile Mortality Rate.

(Number of deaths under age of 1 year per 1,000 live births) :

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1951	1945	1939
15.0	19.7	11.2	21.7	11.5	14	27	32

Classification of Infant Deaths :

	Total	Under Age of 4 weeks		Under Age of 1 year	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
Total	4	2	4	2
Legitimate	4	2	4	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—	—

Still Birth-Rate.

Still births per 1,000 total (live and still) births :

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1939
22.1	30.0	13.8	21.3	37.5	25.2	44.5

Tuberculosis Notifications.

The cases of Tuberculosis which were notified for the first time during the year are given in the following table according to localization of disease, sex, and age group.

	Respiratory		Meninges, Cent. Nervous System		Other Forms		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Under 5 years	1	1	—	—	—	—	
5—14 years	—	—	—	—	—	1	
15—24 „	3	—	—	—	1	—	
25—44 „	5	6	—	—	—	1	
45—64 „	5	1	—	—	—	—	
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total (all ages)	14	8	—	—	1	2	

THE CAUSES OF DEATH

DEATH-RATE

1957

(Deaths per 1,000 of population)

				Males	Females	1957	...	...	8.2
All Causes	...	...	...	116	109	1956	...	...	7.5
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	1	—	1955	...	...	9.2
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	—	—	1954	...	...	9.0
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	—	—	1953	...	...	8.2
4	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	1952	...	...	8.1
5	Whooping cough	...	...	—	—	1951	...	...	9.1
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	—	—	1950	...	...	8.9
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—	1949	...	...	9.3
8	Measles	...	...	1	—	1948	...	...	8.5
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	—	—	1947	...	...	9.9
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	3	3	1946	...	...	8.1
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	11	—	1945	...	...	10.1
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	—	6	1944	...	...	9.8
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	—	2	1943	...	...	10.1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	11	19	1942	...	...	8.7
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	1	—	1941	...	...	8.5
16	Diabetes	...	...	—	3	1940	...	...	8.3
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	17	11	1939	...	...	8.5
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	23	11	1938	...	...	7.9
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	2	1	1937	...	...	6.7
20	Other heart disease	...	...	16	20	1936	...	...	8.6
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	2	6				
22	Influenza	...	...	—	—		
23	Pneumonia	...	...	3	5				
24	Bronchitis	...	...	6	5				
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	—	1	England and Wales			
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	3	1	1957	...	...	11.5
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	—	—	1956	...	...	11.7
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	1	1	1955	...	...	11.7
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	2	—	1954	...	...	11.3
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	—	—	1953	...	...	11.4
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	2	—	1952	...	...	11.3
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	6	9	1951	...	...	12.5
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	2	—	1950	...	...	11.6
34	All other accidents	...	...	2	2	1949	...	...	11.7
35	Suicide	...	...	1	3	1948	...	...	10.8
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	—	—	1947	...	...	12.0
						1946	...	...	11.5

Comparability Factor for Deaths, 1.20

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1957

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute poliomyelitis				Measles (Exc. Rubella)		Diphtheria	
	M	F	M	F	Paralytic	Non-paralytic	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...				2					10	4		
1— ...				5	2				45	43		
3— ...				3	6				73	62		
5— ...	5	6	11	10			1		139	159		
10— ...				3					6	8		
15— ...										1		
25 and over									1	2		
TOTAL ...	5	6	24	18	—	—	1	—	274	279	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Meningococcal infection		Acute encephalitis			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	Infective	Post-infectious	M	F
0— ...												
5— ...												
15— ...		2										
45— ...												
65 and over	1											
TOTAL ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fevers		Erysipelas		Food Poisoning		Other Notifiable Diseases			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	Puerperal Pyrexia ...	M	F	
0— ...									...	...
5— ...			1						Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	
15— ...			1						Cholera ...	—	—	
45— ...	1								Malaria ...	—	—	
65 and over							1	1	Plague ...	—	—	
TOTAL ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	Relapsing Fever	—	—	
									Typhus Fever...	—	—	

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1957

MONTH OF OCCURRENCE

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Scarlet Fever	3	2	2	1	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	1
Whooping Cough	24	5	1	5	4	.	.	3	.	.	.	.
paralytic												
Ac. poliomyelitis ;												
non-paralytic	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
Measles	6	45	35	25	5	5	.	11	8	78	137	178
Diphtheria												
Ac. pneumonia	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.
Dysentery												
Smallpox												
infective												
Ac. encephalitis ;												
post-infectious												
Typhoid Fever												
Paratyphoid fevers	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.
Erysipelas												
Meningococcal infn.												
Food poisoning	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Puerperal pyrexia												
Ophthalmia neonat.												
†												

† Cholera Malaria Plague Relapsing F. Typhus F.

SANITARY CONDITIONS

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

<i>a</i> ,	Total number of houses inspected (Public Health or Housing Acts)	158
<i>b</i> ,	Number of inspections made for the purpose	709

2. Action Taken.

Number of :—

3. Overcrowding.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> ,	Cases brought forward from previous year	...	...	...	3
<i>b</i> ,	Premises found to be overcrowded during the year	...	...	—
<i>c</i> ,	Cases of overcrowding abated	...	...	...	3

4. Certificates of Disrepair.

Number of :—

<i>a</i> , Certificates of Disrepair issued	...	...	...	...	...	12
<i>b</i> , " " revoked	...	...	...	...	...	—

5. Improvement Grants.

Number of :—

a, Applications made 46
b, Grants made 26

6. Number of Houses and Flats Erected During the Year.

Summary of Housing Defects.

Housing defects remedied during the year are recorded below in classified form. Work done in connection with the extermination of rats, mice, etc. is not recorded here, but under that part of the report dealing with the Prevention of Damage by Pests.

1. Site.

- a*, Drainage of ground unsatisfactory : 0. *b*, Outbuildings, inadequate or in bad repair : 2. *c*, Approach to back of house unsatisfactory : 3. *d*, Fencing defective : 0. *e*, Storage of refuse unsatisfactory : 33. *f*, Animals improperly kept : 1.

2. Prevention of Dampness.

- a*, Roof, chimney ; defective : 30. *b*, Gutters, downpipes ; defective : 25. *c*, Walls, doors, windows : defective : 68. *d*, Damp-proof course defective : 10. *e*, Sub-floor ventilation defective : 1. *f*, Solid floor defective : 5. *g*, Soil against walls above damp-proof course : 1 (see also 1. a).

3. Lighting, Ventilation.

a, Obstruction to light and air : 0. *b*, Window area or opening below standard : 0. *c*, Ventilation otherwise defective : 0. *d*, Artificial lighting defective : 0. (See also 8, *f*).

4. Stability and External Repair not included under Sections 2 and 3 above : 2.

5. Water Supply.

a, Water supply not satisfactory : 1. *b*, Main supply disconnected : —.

6. Food Storage, Preparation and Cooking.

a, Storage of food unsatisfactory : 2. *b*, Cooking arrangements unsatisfactory : 0. *c*, Sink unsatisfactory : 4.

7. Washing arrangements : Disposal of Waste Water.

a, Bath defective : 0. *b*, No bath : 0. *c*, Arrangements for water heating unsatisfactory : 0. *d*, Disposal of waste water unsatisfactory : 3.

8. Closet accommodation : Soil Drainage.

a, Pail closet defective : 0. *b*, Water closet defective : 11. *c*, Drainage defective : 86. *d*, Disposal of sewage unsatisfactory : 3. *e*, Approach to outside closet not protected : 0. *f*, Lighting, ventilation ; inadequate : 0.

9. Space Heating.

a, Firegrate, flue ; defective : 6.

10. Repair, Decoration, Cleanliness : internal.

a, Internal structures defective : 52. *b*, Decoration in bad state : 25. *c*, Lack of cleanliness : 0. *d*, Infestation with bugs, etc. : —.

The inspection of houses has continued during the year and appropriate informal/statutory action taken.

The number of houses closed or demolished shows a fall over the previous year due to the reduction in the number of houses available for rehousing purposes.

The Council encourage applications for improvement grants, and the number of applications and grants made shows a slight increase over the previous year. Although the grants are largely made in respect of smaller types of houses they are mainly in respect of owner/occupier houses rather than tenanted houses.

Moveable Dwellings, Caravans, Gipsies.

The majority of the moveable dwellings in the District are on single sites and are licensed. There are two sites licensed for fifteen and three dwellings respectively. The total number of dwellings at the end of the year was fifty.

No special problem arose during the year. Continual difficulty arose from the presence of gipsies in the West Hyde area and on the Council Housing Site ; and, throughout the year, a considerable amount of time was devoted to removing them.

INSPECTION OF FOOD

Summary of Condemned Food.

Meat, 711lbs. ; Meat, canned 221lbs. ; Fish, 4lbs. ; Fish, canned 27lbs. ; Milk, canned 15lbs. ; Cheese, 2lbs. ; Vegetables, canned 141lbs. ; Fruit, canned 212lbs. ; Preserves, 8lbs. ; Frozen Eggs, canned 28lbs.

Method of Disposal of Condemned Food.

All food was taken to the Council's refuse disposal tip.

Slaughter Houses.

There is one licensed slaughterhouse in the District at 251 Uxbridge Road, Mill End.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part.

	Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	...	—	—	9	33	73
Number inspected	...	—	—	9	33	73

Total weight of meat condemned, 311bs.

Milk Supply.

Number of persons registered as Distributors ... 22

Number of premises registered as Dairies ... 1

Number of Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licences ... 1

Number of Dealer's Licences to use the special designations :—

Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised ... 6

Tuberculin Tested 1

Pasteurised 9

Sterilised 9

Number of Dealer's Supplementary Licences* to use the special designations :—

Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised ... 7

Tuberculin Tested 1

Pasteurised 7

Sterilised 5

* for Dealers whose premises are outside the District.

Inspections of Dairies and Milk Shops, 23. Notices, 0.

Sampling.

<i>Pasteurised</i>	<i>Tuberculin Tested</i>	<i>Pasteurised</i>	<i>Tuberculin Tested</i>		
<i>Taken</i>	<i>Failures</i>	<i>Taken</i>	<i>Failures</i>	<i>Taken</i>	<i>Failures</i>
17	—	9	—	17	7

The seven samples which failed to pass the tests were from two producers. In the first case it was found that the milk had been unduly delayed at one of the depots ; arrangements were made for the milk to be more quickly distributed and no further trouble was experienced. The second series of bad samples came from a producer/retailer in the Oxhey area, I informed the County Milk Regulations Officer with whom I visited the place of production, and subsequently no further samples failed the tests.

Ice Cream.

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the District, but forty-five premises were registered for its sale. The suppliers are mainly large manufacturers and the 30 samples taken conformed to Grade I Standard.

Food Premises.

The following table sets out the numbers and types of food premises in the District and the numbers of inspections made, the premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955; and the number of notices served and complied with.

Type of Food Premises	Nos.	Registered	Inspections	Notices Served	Notices Complied
Bakehouses	4	—	18	1	3
Bread and Pastry					
Purveyors	17	—	34	3	3
Butchers	18	18	94	8	8
Confectioners	29	—	62	1	1
Fishmongers	7	—	15	2	2
Fish Fryers	4	3	17	0	1
Greengrocers	19	—	76	13	14
Grocers	44	2	159	6	7
Ice Cream Purveyors ...	44	38	91	2	2
Licensed Premises ...	44	—	89	2	3
Milk Distributors ...	23	—	23	1	1
Restaurants and Cafes	40	—	85	4	3
Canteens, Factory ...	15	—	34	7	6
,, School ...	16	—	37	4	7
	—	—	—	—	—
	324	61	834	54	61
	—	—	—	—	—

Additional progress was made enforcing the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, and particulars of the types of contraventions of the regulations dealt with are recorded below. There was only one prosecution during the year in respect of dirty and defective conditions existing at a greengrocery shop and store ; fines amounting to £45 and costs were inflicted in this case.

Type of Contravention	Number remedied
Food unprotected against contamination	6
Food too close to floor	4
Smoking, by food handlers	8
Fly infestation	1
Accumulation of refuse in food room ...	3
Dirty clothing of food handlers ...	1
No accommodation for outdoor clothing, etc. ...	2
No wash hand basin	4
Insufficient water supply—hot ...	9
cold ...	3
No nailbrush provided ...	4
No Towel and/or soap ...	1
Insufficient First Aid materials ...	5
Structural disrepair in food rooms ...	12
Premises in need of redecoration ...	19
Defective equipment ...	2
Dirty equipment ...	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	1
Sanitary convenience insufficiently lighted ...	1
No notice displayed requesting users of sanitary convenience to wash their hands	3
Insufficient temperature control of certain foods ...	1
No name and address displayed (stalls, etc.) ...	7
Unsatisfactory transport ...	1

THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The Council became a Food and Drugs Authority on the 1st April, 1957, and this is therefore the first report dealing with sampling. The number of samples examined under the Food and Drugs Act between the 1st April and 31st December was 51 of which 6 were formal and 45 informal. The foods sampled were :—

					<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Adulterated, etc.</i>
Milk	...	...	...	...	4	28	5
Apples	...	...	...	...		1	
Chicken, Chopped	...	...	...	...		1	
Curry Powder	...	...	...	...		1	
Dairy Roll Sweets	...	...	...	...		1	
Dried Mint	...	...	...	...		1	
Pineapple Juice	...	...	...	...		1	
Sardines	...	...	...	...		1	
Sausages, Pork	...	...	...	...		4	1
Vinegar, Malt	...	...	...	...		1	
Margarine	...	...	...	...		1	
Tomato Ketchup	...	...	...	...		1	
Fish Cakes	...	...	...	...		1	
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...		1	
Orange Juice	...	...	...	...	2		2
Sausage Meat	...	...	...	...		1	1
					—	—	—
					6	45	9
					—	—	—

The 5 milk samples reported to be unsatisfactory, generally due to low fat content, were found, on resampling, to be satisfactory. One case, where 2% of added water was found, was referred to the Buckinghamshire County Council where the milk was produced, and consequent upon further sampling by that authority the producer was convicted for adding water.

The samples of pork sausages and sausage meat were both found to contain preservative which had not been declared by the retailers. These were genuine oversights, and as a result of informal action appropriate notices are now displayed.

The two samples of orange juice found to be unsatisfactory were part of a large consignment of orange juice concentrate stored in a field at West Hyde. The Public Analyst was of the opinion that it had an unpleasant taste, an appreciable iron content, and that it was no longer suitable for the preparation of an orange drink. There was correspondence with the Trustee in Bankruptcy who has given an undertaking that this orange juice concentrate will not be used for human consumption.

Water Supply.

The Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company supplies the greater part of the area ; the Colne Valley Water Company supplies a relatively small number of houses in the Eastbury area. A satisfactory sample from each supply was taken during the year.

Unsatisfactory samples are occasionally obtained from the shallow bores at a camping club site, but sampling this year has shown the water to be satisfactory.

Swimming Pools.

The Ebury Road Open Air Bath is owned by the Council. The water supply is by bore and electric pump. Chlorination apparatus is in use, and frequent checks are made by the attendant and by this department. A small swimming bath was constructed at the Mill End Junior School, Shepherds Lane.

The Aquadrome, a natural lake, is largely used for swimming during the summer months.

The Ebury Road Open Air Bath and the Mill End Junior School Bath were only open for a short period during the summer, 5 water samples were taken for bacteriological examination and all were reported to be satisfactory. Twenty-one inspections were made.

Licensed Premises.

The following table summarises work in connection with matters not directly related to the Food Hygiene Regulations.

No. of Licensed Premises	Inspections	Notices	
		Served	Complied
43	89	4	8

SHOPS ACT, 1950

No. of Shops	Inspections	Notices Served	Complied
298	675	29	38

No. of Mobile Shops	Inspections	Notices Served	Complied
25	38	3	3

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

DISINFECTION : Number of houses disinfected 4

DISINFESTATION : Number of houses treated (Exc. rats and mice) 14

Sixty-five complaints were received regarding wasps, and action was taken for the destruction of nests. Complaints of squirrels, moles and bats were also dealt with.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

The work done during the year under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, is recorded in the following section.

	1 Local Authority Depots, etc.	2 Dwelling Houses	3 All other, incl. Business & Industry	4 Total cols. 1, 2, 3	5 Agri- cultural
1. Total No. of properties in L.A.'s district	28	8,300	731	9,059	20
2. No. of properties inspected by L.A. as a result of a, Notification, b, Survey under Act, c, otherwise	a, . b, 28 c, 6	207 50 158	22 25 No Info.	229 103 —	— 15 18
3. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by rats (a) Major (b) Minor, infest	a, . b, 10	.	.	.	.
4. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by mice (a) Major (b) Minor, infest	a, . b, 2	164 39	9 13	183 54	.
5. No. of infested properties (under 3 & 4) treated by the L.A. ...	12	203	22	237	.
6. No. of notices served under Section 4 for : a, Treatment b, Structural Works	a, . b, .	.	.	—	.

7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by L.A. following issue of notice under S. 4 ; 0. Legal proceedings, 0.
8. Number of "block control" schemes carried out, 24.

Rodent Control in Sewers.

The sewers were last test-baited in 1955 with negative results, and exemption was granted until 1957 by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. During the current year test-baiting was carried out at 93 man-holes again with negative results.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Direct labour scheme. Disposal by controlled tipping. Salvage of paper scheme in operation.

THE KEEPING OF ANIMALS

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Number of licences to keep Pet Shops	...	...	...	...	4
Offences against Act	...	...	...	...	0

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	26	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	78	285	13	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	87	308	14	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	—	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	17	9	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	19	13	—	—	—

Sections 110, 111—Outworkers 47: Notices, etc., Nil.

WATFORD

RURAL DISTRICT

Area (land and inland water). 18,179 acres.

Civil Parishes—Abbots Langley, 5,558.9; Aldenham, 5,842; Sarratt, 4,587.4; Watford Rural, 2,190.7; acres.

Dwellings and Rateable Value.

31st March, 1958.

<i>Number of Separate Dwellings</i>	<i>Rateable Value</i>	<i>Product (est.) of Penny Rate</i>
14,364	£718,448	£2,938

Population.

(Registrar General's estimates at mid-year) :

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1951 <small>census</small>	1945	1939
54,230	52,930	51,100	48,560	44,800	38,316	20,370	20,280

Birth-Rate.

(Live births per 1,000 of population) : Comparability Factor, 0.90

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1951	1945	1939
15.6	16.5	14.9	15.6	16.2	17.0	17.2	13.9

Classification of Births:

	Total	...	...	...	Live Births		Still Births	
					M.	F.	M.	F.
	Total	...	...	...	440	409	5	9
	<i>Legitimate</i>	...	...	...	426	391	5	9
	<i>Illegitimate</i>	...	...	...	14	18	—	—

Infantile Mortality Rate.

(Number of deaths under age of 1 year per 1,000 live births) :

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1951	1945	1939
17.7	28.6	11.8	22.4	24.8	29	26	56

Classification of Deaths:

	... ...	... ...	... ...	Under Age of 4 weeks		Under Age of 1 year	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
Total	...	...	...	8	4	9	6
Legitimate	...	...	...	8	4	9	6
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—	—

Still Birth-Rate.

Still births per 1,000 total (live and still) births :

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1951	1939
16.2	13.5	16.8	14.3	16.3	20.0	20.8

Tuberculosis Notifications.

The cases of Tuberculosis which were notified for the first time during the year are given in the following table according to localization of disease, sex, and age group.

	Respiratory		Meninges, Cent. Nervous System		Other Forms	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years	2	4	—	—	1	—
5—14 years	3	2	—	—	1	—
15—24 „	4	4	—	—	—	—
25—44 „	11	13	—	—	—	2
45—64 „	5	2	—	—	1	—
65 and over	1	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages)	26	25	—	—	3	2

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1957

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute poliomyelitis				Measles (Exc. Rubella)		Diphtheria	
	M	F	M	F	Paralytic		Non-paralytic		M	F	M	F
0— ...			7	10					10	10		
1— ...	2	1	33	27		1			95	78		
3— ...	2		29	26		2		2	148	127		
5— ...	11	12	93	77					287	279		
10— ...	4	2	11	8			2		26	24		
15— ...	1	1	3	1		3		1		3		
25 and over				3	1	1	3		1	4		
TOTAL ...	20	16	176	152	1	7	5	3	567	525	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Meningococcal infection		Acute encephalitis				
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	Infective	Post-infectious	M	F	
0— ...			1	2									
5— ...	2	1	6	10									1
15— ...	6		18	1									
45— ...	2	1											
65 and over	1	1											
TOTAL ...	11	3	25	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

AGE GROUPS	Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fevers		Erysipelas		Food Poisoning		Other Notifiable Diseases				
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	Puerperal Pyrexia ...	... 1	M	F	
0— ...													
5— ...							1	2	Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	1			
15— ...		1					4	2	Cholera ...	...	—	—
45— ...								1	Malaria ...	...	—	—
65 and over								1	Plague ...	...	—	—
TOTAL ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	5	6	Relapsing Fever	—	—	—	
									Typhus Fever...	—	—	—	

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1957

MONTH OF OCCURRENCE

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Scarlet Fever	1	9	7	5	1	1	9	.	1	.	.	2
Whooping Cough	30	22	44	62	85	38	28	13	5	.	1	.
paralytic	.	.	.	.	1	2	.	1	.	1	2	1
Ac. poliomyelitis ;												
non-paralytic	.	.	1	.	.	5	.	2	.	.	.	.
Measles	66	220	310	137	152	105	68	10	3	3	4	14
Diphtheria												
Ac. pneumonia	4	.	3	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	5	.
Dysentery	3	10	3	7	6	3	4	.	.	.	1	1
Smallpox												
infective												
Ac. encephalitis ;												
post-infectious	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
Typhoid Fever	J	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Paratyphoid fevers												
Erysipelas												
Meningococcal infn.												
Food poisoning	.	4	.	.	.	2	.	5	.	.	.	.
Puerperal pyrexia	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
Ophthalmia neonat.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
†												
† Cholera	Malaria	Plague	Relapsing F.	Typhus F.								

THE CAUSES OF DEATH

1957

DEATH-RATE

(Deaths per 1,000 of population)

				Males	Females	1957	...	...	7.9
All Causes ...	...	...	...	207	220	1956	...	...	8.5
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	5	4	1955	...	...	8.4
2 Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	—	—	1954	...	...	8.7
3 Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	3	—	1953	...	...	8.5
4 Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	1952	...	...	6.8
5 Whooping cough	...	...	...	1	—	1951	...	...	7.1
6 Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—	1950	...	...	6.7
7 Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	1949	...	...	7.9
8 Measles	...	...	...	—	—	1948	...	...	8.3
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	1	1	1947	...	...	11.3
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	2	3	1946	...	...	10.1
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	14	1	1945	...	...	9.9
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	12	1944	...	...	9.3
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	4	1943	...	...	9.1
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	20	20	1942	...	...	9.6
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	2	1	1941	...	...	10.0
16 Diabetes	...	...	...	—	—	1940	...	...	10.1
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	22	25	1939	...	...	8.8
18 Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	43	26	1938	...	...	7.9
19 Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	4	6	1937	...	...	10.6
20 Other heart disease	...	...	...	25	44	1936	...	...	8.3
21 Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	4	10				
22 Influenza	...	...	...	2	6				
23 Pneumonia	...	...	...	9	23				
24 Bronchitis	...	...	...	10	6				
25 Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	3	—	England and Wales			
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	4	1	1957	...	...	11.5
27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	2	3	1956	...	...	11.7
28 Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	2	2	1955	...	...	11.7
29 Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	1	—	1954	...	...	11.3
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—	1953	...	...	11.4
31 Congenital malformations	...	...	...	—	3	1952	...	...	11.3
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	20	12	1951	...	...	12.5
33 Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	3	—	1950	...	...	11.6
34 All other accidents	...	...	...	3	7	1949	...	...	11.7
35 Suicide	...	...	...	2	—	1948	...	...	10.8
36 Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—	1947	...	...	12.0
						1946	...	...	11.5

Comparability Factor for Deaths, 1.16

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

<i>a,</i> Total number of houses inspected (Public Health or Housing Acts)	292
<i>b,</i> Number of inspections made for the purpose	509

2. Action Taken.

Number of :—						
<i>a,</i> Clearance Areas declared	0					
<i>b,</i> Unfit houses included in <i>a</i> , above	0					
<i>c,</i> Individual houses demolished	6					
<i>d,</i> Individual houses closed	0					
<i>e,</i> Parts of buildings closed	0					
<i>f,</i> Dwellings rendered fit after :—						
<i>i,</i> Informal action	94					
<i>ii,</i> Formal action	17					

3. Overcrowding.

Number of :—						
<i>a,</i> Cases brought forward from previous years	0					
<i>b,</i> Premises found to be overcrowded during the year	0					
<i>c,</i> Cases of overcrowding abated	0					

4. Certificates of Disrepair.

Number of :—						
<i>a,</i> Certificates of Disrepair issued	0					
<i>b,</i> „ „ „ revoked	0					

5. Improvement Grants.

Number of :—						
<i>a,</i> Applications made	11					
<i>b,</i> Grants made	5					

6. Number of Houses and Flats Erected During the Year.

<i>a,</i> By the Local Authority	68
<i>b,</i> By other Authorities and Organizations	0
<i>c,</i> By private persons	235

SUMMARY OF HOUSING DEFECTS.

Housing defects remedied during the year are recorded below in classified form. Work done in connection with the extermination of rats, mice, etc., is not recorded here, but under that part of the report dealing with the Prevention of Damage by Pests.

1. Site.

- a,* Drainage of ground unsatisfactory : 4. *b,* Outbuildings, inadequate or in bad repair : 6. *c,* Approach to back of house unsatisfactory : 6.
- d,* Fencing defective : 2. *e,* Storage of refuse unsatisfactory : 52.
- f,* Animals improperly kept : 2.

2. Prevention of Dampness.

- a,* Roof, chimney ; defective : 16. *b,* Gutters, downpipes ; defective : 14. *c,* Walls, doors, windows ; defective : 12. *d,* Damp-proof course defective : 1. *e,* Sub-floor ventilation defective : 0. *f,* Solid floor defective : 7. *g,* Soil against walls above damp-proof course : 6. (See also 1, a).

3. Lighting, Ventilation.

a, Obstruction to light and air : 0. *b*, Window area or opening below standard 6. Ventilation otherwise defective : 6. *d*, Artificial lighting defective : 0. (See also 8, *f*).

4. Stability and External Repair not included under Sections 2 and 3 above : 0.

5. Water Supply.

a, Water supply not satisfactory : 1. *b*, Main supply disconnected : 0.

6. Food Storage, Preparation and Cooking.

a, Storage of food unsatisfactory : 6. *b*, Cooking arrangements unsatisfactory : 0. *c*, Sink unsatisfactory : 4.

7. Washing arrangements : Disposal of Waste Water.

a, Bath defective : 0. *b*, No bath : 6. *c*, Arrangements for water heating unsatisfactory : 1. Disposal of waste water unsatisfactory : 6.

8. Closet accommodation : Soil Drainage.

a, Pail closet defective : 4. *b*, Water closet defective : 10. *c*, Drainage defective : 42. *d*, Disposal of sewage unsatisfactory : 0. *e*, Approach to outside closet not protected : 6. *f*, Lighting, ventilation ; inadequate : 6.

9. Space-Heating.

a, Firegrate, flue ; defective : 3.

10. Repair, Decoration, Cleanliness : internal.

a, Internal structures defective : 11. *b*, Decoration in bad state : 11. *c*, Lack of cleanliness : 0. *d*, Infestation with bugs, etc. : 1.

Caravan Sites.

There are four licensed caravan sites in the Rural District, namely, at Eastbury Road, Oxhey ; Toms Lane, Kings Langley ; Newlands, Bedmond; and Tibbs Hill, Abbots Langley. The number of caravan dwellings on the four sites total 268.

Periodic visits and inspections of the sites are made by the public health department staff. The sites are generally well maintained, with all conditions attached to the respective licences adhered to.

THE FOOD SUPPLY

Food Condemned.

The following is a summary of the food condemned during year :—

Meat, carcase 495lbs. ; Meat canned 437lbs. ; Vegetables, canned 186lbs.; Fruit, canned 193lbs. ; Fish, canned 8lbs. ; Fish, fresh 32lbs. ; Milk, canned 36lbs. ; Cheese 22lbs. ; Soup, canned 15lbs.

Food Premises.

Considerable attention was paid during the year to food premises, and visits to advise persons engaged in the handling of food were made to ensure compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

Number of Food Premises Inspected ...	...	...	...	...	216
Number of Contraventions ...	...	...	...	...	14

Milk Supply.

a) Designated milks		<i>Retailers</i>
Tuberculin Tested ...	...	19
Pasteurised ...	...	19
Sterilized ...	...	15
Number of inspections ...	11	Notices ... 0

Ice-Cream.

Number of premises registered :—

(a) for Manufacture...	...	0	(b) for Sale ...	62
Number of inspections ...	66		Notices ...	3

During the year 49 samples of ice-cream were taken and submitted for laboratory examination. The results were as follows :—

Grade I, 48. Grade II, 1. Grade III, 0. Grade IV, 0.

Water Supply.

The water supply of the District is adequate and chlorinated. One sample of the public water supply was submitted for laboratory examination and a satisfactory report was received.

In addition, two samples were taken from a newly sunk private borehole. The result of the first sample was not entirely satisfactory, but the laboratory report on the repeat sample proved that the supply was suitable for drinking purposes.

Swimming Pool.

During the year, four samples of water were taken and submitted for laboratory examination from a privately owned swimming pool which is open to the public and local school-children. The water in the pool is filtered and automatically chlorinated. Satisfactory reports were received in respect of each of the samples.

Slaughtering and Meat Inspection

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part.

	Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep Lambs	Pigs	*Horses
Number killed (if known) ...	—	—	3	—	7	—
Number inspected ...	—	—	3	—	7	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

*For human consumption

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

The work done during the year under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, is recorded in the following section.

	Local Authority Depots, etc.	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other, incl. Business & Industry	Total
1. Total No. of properties in L.A.s' district	14	14,177	187	1,092	15,470
2. No. of properties inspected by L.A. as a result of a, notification, b, otherwise	a, — b, 14	153 525	1 1	5 196	159 736
3. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by rats (a) Major (b) Minor, Infest.,	a, b, 3				— 163
4. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by Mice a, Major b, Minor, Infest.	a, b, —				— 34
5. No. of infested properties (under 3 & 4) treated by the L.A. ...	3	188	1	3	195
No. of notices served under Section 4 for: a, Treatment b, Structural Work	a, b,				— —

7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by L.A. following issue of notice under S. 4 : 0.
8. Legal Proceedings, 0.
9. Number of "block control" schemes carried out, 7.

A rodent operative is employed in the public health department. He is provided with a light van for transport of equipment, poison baits, etc. The Council's present policy is to provide a free service for domestic dwellings.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

DISINFECTION :	Number of houses disinfected	... ...	42
DISINFESTATION :	Number of houses treated (Exc. rats and mice)	... ... ... ...	1

SMOKE ABATEMENT

With the coming into operation of the Clean Air Act, 1956, smoke abatement took on an even more important aspect during the year. In addition to advisory visits to boiler installations, much progress was made by liaison with other interested bodies.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

(a) REFUSE COLLECTION—The service is carried out by direct labour throughout the District. During the post-war years there has been considerable expansion in this service on account of the extensive housing development in the Council's area. Eleven vehicles are now employed, namely :—two 18 cu. yd. rear loaders ; three 12 cu. yd. Double Cab ; two 10 cu. yd. Double Cab ; and four 10 cu. yd. Single Cab ; in full use. In addition, two 10 cu. yd. Single Cab act as relief vehicles.

It has been the aim to maintain a weekly collection service, but very real difficulties have been experienced from time to time owing to lack of staff, or absence on account of sickness : it is not usually possible to engage men in a temporary capacity to take the place of those absent.

A Trade Refuse Collection Scheme provides for a charge being made for the removal of trade refuse from shop premises. The scale of fees in force provides for no charge in respect of the first dustbin, 30/- per year for the second bin, 20/- for the third, and 15/- for the fourth and subsequent bins.

(b) REFUSE DISPOSAL—With the expansion of the refuse collection service, there has been a considerable increase in the amount of refuse collected, and additional land has had to be taken over at the two refuse disposal sites at Abbots Langley and Aldenham. Controlled tipping is being carried out at both tips, with the assistance of mechanical equipment.

(c) CESSPOOL EMPTYING—The emptying of cesspools is undertaken by the Council, and the scheme covers the whole of the district. Cesspools are emptied at the request of owners or occupiers without charge, but the Council reserve the right to review this arrangement at any time, and to impose a scale of charges in specific cases, or generally, should they consider it necessary or desirable. An 800 gallon Cesspool Emptying Vehicle, operated by two men, is in use. In addition, it is necessary to employ the services of a contractor who uses modern type emptying vehicles. The improved efficiency of the service was maintained during the year, and as a result, the number of emptyings has increased.

The Council has under consideration the question of extending the sewerage system in certain areas of the District, and applications have been made to the Ministry for consents in respect of these. The Bucknalls Lane Sewerage Scheme was completed during the year and thereby 59 cesspools, serving 70 dwellings, were abolished. The disposal of cesspool contents is into sewers in the area.

WORKING STATISTICS (January—December).

Total number of Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	518
Total number of emptyings of above Cesspools	...	...	...	...	2,238
Total number of loads removed	...	...	...	...	5,292
Number of gallons removed at 800 gallons per load	...				4,233,600

(d) PAIL CLOSET EMPTYING—This is undertaken by direct labour in the Parishes of Abbots Langley, Aldenham, and Sarratt. Pail closets are emptied weekly, properly equipped vehicles being used.

The maintenance and supervision of the Public Conveniences in Watling Street, Radlett ; Station Approach, South Oxhey ; and the recently completed one in the High Street, Abbots Langley ; is carried out by the Public Health Department.

THE KEEPING OF ANIMALS

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Number of licences to keep Pet Shops	...	...	...	...	2
Number of inspections under the Act	...	...	...	...	6
Contraventions	...	...	...	...	0

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	49	34	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	5	—	—
TOTAL ...	52	39	2	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	2	2	—	—	—

Outworkers S.110 (i) (c)—Number, 195; Notices, etc., 0.

